

GATES HOIT.

DECEMBER 27, 1831.

MR. DRAYTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Gates Hoyt, report:*

That the petitioner states, that he was employed by certain military officers of the United States to perform some secret services, during the late war, under the promise of being amply rewarded; that he did perform the services required of him to the satisfaction of those with whom he contracted; and, although in the prosecution of his engagement he encountered difficulties, and expended money from his private funds, that he has never been remunerated, or in any manner compensated: he therefore prays that Congress would grant him the relief to which he is equitably entitled.

From testimony which has been submitted to the committee, it is clearly established, that the petitioner did furnish important information to our military officers, of a secret nature, relating to the positions and numbers of the British troops, during the late war, and that he was promised remuneration; but they are not in possession of any evidence to guide them as to the value of that information, or the rule by which it ought to be estimated. As the committee are of opinion, were they to award any sum to the petitioner, that the amount would, probably, be more or less than he ought to receive, they recommend that he have leave to exhibit to the Third Auditor of the Treasury, the proof which he may deem necessary to substantiate his claims; that the Auditor be authorized to examine them, and to report to this House the result of his investigation, and the amount which, in his judgment, ought justly and equitably to be paid to the petitioner.

